

Quarterly Report n.1 30th October 2015

Program Title: Community based response and prevention to the Ebola outbreak in Lower Guinea

Country/Region of Country: Guinea/ Lower Guinea

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1. PROJECT OVERVIEW FOR THE PERIOD OF REPORTING.

The expatriate project manager and the administrative and logistics officers were deployed in Guinea-Conakry in August 2015. They opened and equipped the DRC office in Conakry at the end of September. National staff were recruited in September. They were trained to use the Monitoring & Evaluation toolbox and they were introduced to DRC's procedures for logistics, administration and financial management.

The initial survey on Knowledge, Attitudes and Practices in relation to the Ebola disease was also conducted in September 2015 in 83 localities. After review, 40 of these localities were retained as intervention area. The detailed work plan of activities was prepared for the remaining duration of the project including a procurement plan. Purchase requests were prepared and quotations were collected.

The presidential election of October 11th led to an increase of the security level from 3 to 4 and the suspension of operations. National staff were asked to secure their families whilst international staff moved to the regional office of DRC in Abidjan on October 9th. The activities resumed on the 21st October.

2. SUMMARY OF ACTIVITIES IMPLEMENTED DURING THE PERIOD OF REPORTING

The first two months (August and September 2015) of this quarter were devoted to the opening and equipping of the office in Conakry. During this period, the following activities were completed:

Human resources management, activities and purchases' planification:

The recruitment process for the two international positions of WASH Project Manager and Support Coordinator based both in Conakry was completed in August. The first focus was on the opening and equipping of the office in Conakry.

The recruitment process for national staff was launched at the same time and completed at the end of September 2015. Four national teams, consisting of five supervisors and twelve field agents were recruited, trained and deployed in the 4 prefectures of intervention: Boke, Fria, Kindia and Telimele. After their induction to DRC's procedures regarding security management, administration, finances and logistics, they were also trained on the Monitoring & Evaluation toolbox. By early October, all national staff were operational. A detailed planning for the activities and for the procurement of goods was prepared (see annex 5).

Sector 1: Risk Management Policy and Practice (RMPP)

In this first quarter, two main activities were conducted:

- Production and regular updating of risk mapping:

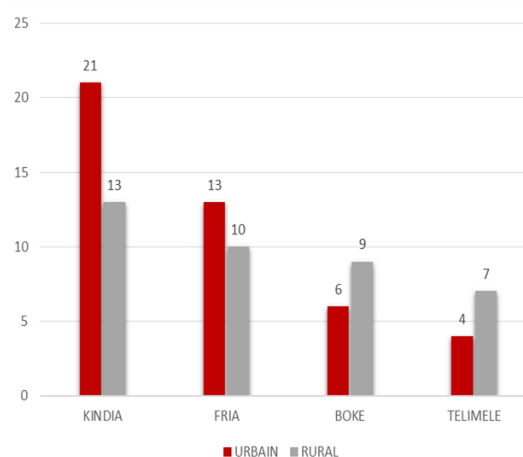
Together with the health authorities (Direction Provinciale de Santé) and the local authorities (Préfet, Sous-préfet and Maires) of the four prefectures 83 areas were selected to conduct the initial risk mapping. The operational methodology for the assessment of risks and the vulnerability of the target population is explained in the attached report (Annex 1).

- Evaluation Knowledge, Attitudes and Practices (KAP):

The tools for the initial KAP evaluation were developed in August (see the report in Annex 2) and the assessment was conducted in September in the 83 targeted communities. Out of these, 40 were retained on the basis of objective criteria as intervention areas (see Initial KAP survey report in Appendix 4 and 5: Survey report of 83 localities).

The survey focused on the knowledge, attitudes and practices regarding the Ebola disease. The sample was stratified to provide adequate representation of urban and rural areas of these 4 prefectures in the Basse Côte region. The table and graph below summarize the classification in urban and rural areas of localities surveyed:

Prefecture	Urban	Rural	Total
Boke	6	9	15
Fria	13	10	23
Kindia	21	13	34
Telimele	4	7	11
TOTAL	44	39	83



Methodology of choice of intervention sites: The information collected in 83 sites was encoded in DRC's database for further interpretation and analysis. The 40 most at risk localities were selected for the intervention. The Annex 5 presents the 40 communities of intervention

Sector 2: Wash, Sanitation and Hygiene

No activities were implemented in this sector during the reporting period, however, all pre-requisite are now completed and will enable DRC to implement the activities planned under this sector in the next quarter.

3. ACTIVITIES NOT IMPLEMENTED AS PLANNED

The challenges of finding and opening an office in Conakry caused a slight delay for all activities. Classified by sector, following activities will take place as soon as the security situations turns back to normal after the presidential election.

Sector 0: Human resources management, activities and purchases' planning:

No delays are reported for this aspect: a detailed planning was made for the procurement of items for the execution of the project. Purchases are planned in October – November.

Sector 1: Risk Management Policy and Practice (RMPP):

- Organization of four coordination meetings with the DPS, CVS and ACS / HCA;
- Training, material support and equipment of 20 CVS;
- Development of the villagers' response plans in 20 communities.

Sector 2: Wash, Sanitation and Hygiene

- Distribution of 20 community hygiene kits to CVS.

4. MONITORING ACTIVITIES

The regional Monitoring & Evaluation team provided substantial support to the initial KAP survey, the creation of the database and the analysis of the data. All monitoring tools are now created and the teams trained on them and the monitoring and evaluation plan was respected.

5. PLANNED ACTIVITIES FOR THE NEXT QUARTER

Activities planned by sector for the second quarter (from October to December 15) are:

Sector 0: Human resources management and procurement planning

Two important challenges will be addressed:

- Fine tuning of the planning of activities so that all results will be attained in the project period;
- Implementation of the procurement plan

Sector 1: Risk Management Policy and Practice (RMPP)

The following activities are planned:

- Regular updating of risk mapping

Risk assessments on disasters and the vulnerability of target populations will be organised regularly in order to update the initial mapping in the 40 localities of the intervention area.

- Organisation of 4 coordination meetings with local authorities

These prefectural meetings provide an opportunity for DRC to introduce the project and the results of initial KAP survey to administrative local authorities (prefects, sub-prefects, DPS, CVS, AC / HCA) and traditional leaders (chiefs of village or neighbourhoods, leaders of opinions). This dialogue will serve to improve the community involvement and their ownership of the outcomes.

- Training, material support and equipment of 40 CVS

DRC will develop training plans tailored to each CVS, based on the community response plans and the initial KAP results. Community kits for "contact tracing" will then be distributed to CVS according to the identified needs. CVS will be evaluated on their level of knowledge two months after training.

- Development of the villagers response plans

Community consultations will be conducted in the 40 communities via Ebola committees (CVS, Community Protection Committees, opinion leaders) that were created or revitalized in order to establish risk / emergency mitigation plans.

- Sensitization of 40 communities by CVS with the support of DRC

An outreach plan will be developed for each community and the CVS of those communities will be trained so that they have full technical knowledge and awareness. DRC will support them to organize awareness campaigns in the target communities while ensuring the monitoring and evaluation on the sensitisation results and on the functionality of the early warning system.

Sector 2: Wash, Sanitation and Hygiene

Three (3) main types of activities will be undertaken from October to November 2015, namely:

- Awareness campaigns on hygiene in connection with community action plans

DRC will support CVS to organize campaigns in hygiene promotion. The goals at the end of November 2015 are:

- 1168 people will be sensitized on hygiene practices in the 40 communities of intervention;
- 206 people will be interviewed on the knowledge of the 5 key moments for hand washing;
- 206 people will be interviewed on the use of soap and water for hand washing practices

- Distribution of hygiene kits to vulnerable populations

DRC will organize distributions of hygiene kits to vulnerable as follows:

- 40 community hygiene kits to CVS;
- 500 hygiene kits targeting the most vulnerable households;
- 40 hygiene kits to households in quarantine (case contacts).

- Purchase and provision of a contingency stock of 40 kits for DPS

DRC will place a stock of 40 contingency kits within 4 DPS for a rapid response against any case of MVE confirmed in 40 target communities.

6. SUMMARY: BENEFICIARIES AND ACHIEVEMENTS BY OBJECTIVE

(See attached matrix of targets and achievements by objective)

The results of the period were related to opening and equipping the DRC office in Conakry and to the recruitment, induction and training of national staff. The level of achievement is 100%.

For the initial KAP survey, 843 people were surveyed as compared to 800 planned, resulting in an achievement level of 105%.